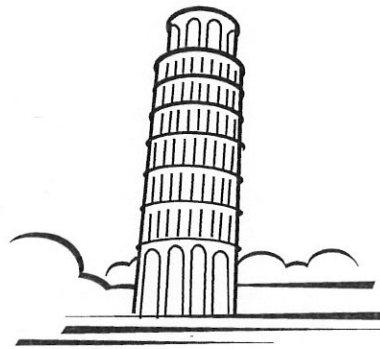


GLOBAL NETWORKING

SURVIVALPHRASES.COM

LANGUAGE LESSONS

PACKET



ITALY

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS PACKET!

*RETURN TO YOUR TEACHER WHEN
FINISHED WITH LESSONS!*



Lesson 1: Thank You!

Grazie

LESSON NOTES

Wherever your destination, manners are a must! And in this respect, Italy is no different. So in our very first lesson, we'll be teaching you a simple phrase that is bound to come in handy throughout your trip to Italy. Again, I can't stress this enough, a little a bit of language can go such a long way!

In Italian "Thank you." is "grazie".

You can emphasize 'grazie' by adding 'mille', literally "a thousand". You could say "grazie mille", which would be equivalent to "thank you very much" or "thanks a lot".

PHRASES

Italian	English
Grazie mille	Thanks a lot
Ti ringrazio	I thank you.
La ringrazio	I thank you (formal).

VOCABULARY

Italian	English
Grazie	Thank you

QUICK TIP

There will be occasions where you will really want to show your appreciation. During occasions such as these, you can use the verb 'ringraziare':

"I thank you" is "ti ringrazio". The first word 'ti' means 'you', or 'to you'. This is followed by the verb, "ringrazio", which is the first person form of the verb "ringraziare", which means 'to thank'.

When speaking to an older person or someone you've just met, you should always use the formal tense. The phrase is essentially the same. All you need to do is substitute 'ti' with 'la'. The phrase will look like this: "la ringrazio"

QUICK TIP 2

By far, 'grazie' is the most common way to thank someone.

Grazie can be used with just about anyone, anywhere and anytime. You say Grazie when the waiter brings your food or drinks; when the clerk in the hotel takes your luggage to your room; when somebody welcomes you, or congratulates you. The person's gender or age isn't important; "grazie" or "grazie mille" will always be an appropriate response.



Lesson 2: You're Welcome

Prego

LESSON NOTES

In today's lesson we'll continue to learn more phrases that will help you with basic etiquette. Italians are very hospitable, and phrases of gratitude are used quite often. In Italian "You're welcome." is "prego".

You can emphasize 'prego' by adding 'non fa niente' which means literally means "doesn't do anything". Its English equivalent might be "don't mention it". You would put the two phrases together like this: "Prego. Non fa niente.", which would be equivalent to, "You're welcome. Don't mention it."

PHRASES

Italian

Non fa niente

Senz'altro

English

Don't mention it

Certainly

VOCABULARY

Italian

Prego

English

You're welcome

QUICK TIP

Another way of responding to a phrase of gratitude is "Senz'altro" which means "certainly". The first word "senza" means without. This is followed by "altro", which in Italian is "other".

QUICK TIP 2

Musicians will have an advantage when learning Italian; since the 17th Century classical music has used Italian words when giving directions, and most classical musicians need some knowledge of Italian. For example, if a piece of music has a section 'senza violin' any violin player from around the world will know that it's time for their break!



SurvivalPhrases.com

A Little Bit of Language Can Go a Long Way!



Lesson 3: Please (This Please)

per favore

LESSON NOTES

Italians love it when foreigners try to speak their language. Sometimes tourists tend to fall back on hand gestures when they need to ask for something. By combining a simple "per favore" or "per piacere" you will never again have to gesture stupidly when asking for something in Italy.

In Italian "please" is "per favore".

The easiest way of way of using "please" is to point at something while saying "per favore". To be more specific, you can ask for "this please", which in Italian is "questo per favore". In English, the word for 'this' comes before 'please'. In Italian the order is the same. In Italian the word for 'this', "questo", precedes "per favore"

Looking at the word for "this", warrants a look at the word for "that" which is "quello". The phrase "that please" is "quello per favore".

PHRASES

Italian	English
questo per favore	This please
quello per favore	That please

VOCABULARY

Italian	English
Per favore	Please

QUICK TIP

Sometimes, when Italians want to emphasize their politeness, they will add "excuse me" before saying "please." For instance, a customer that walks into a shop may say, "scusi per favore". The word "scusi" is the formal way of saying "excuse me." You should always use the formal when speaking to people whom you do not know or with people who are older than you. (See Quick Tip2). The word "Scusi" comes from the verb "scusare" which means to excuse or to forgive.

QUICK TIP 2

When speaking to someone young or with people you know, using the informal is acceptable. For example, if you are buying something from a shop and the cashier happens to be young, it's okay to say "Scusa, per favore" if you need to get his/her attention. Remember, "Scusa, per favore" is informal for "Excuse me." When in doubt, always use the formal "scusi".



Lesson 4: Basic Greetings

Ciao

LESSON NOTES

Italians have an endless amount of expressions for both greetings and partings. The most common way to say "hello" and "goodbye" is "Ciao." Remember, while "Ciao" is the most common way to greet someone, it's used primarily with younger people and with people you know. When addressing someone older than you or a person you are meeting for the first time, it's best to use the formal expression, "salve".

Then there are expressions that are used according to what time of day it is. For instance, "Buongiorno" is used to say "Good Morning" but it can also be used to see good day. Though not as widely used but still acceptable, "Buon pomeriggio" is said in the early afternoon .

VOCABULARY

Italian	English
Ciao	Hello or Goodbye (Informal)
Salve	Hello or Goodbye (Formal)
Buongiorno	Good morning
Buon pomeriggio	Good afternoon
Buonasera	Good evening
Buonanotte	Good night

QUICK TIP

During your trip, you'll notice that around mid to late afternoon, Italians switch over to "Buonasera." This is used to say good evening even though it may only be just late afternoon. "Buonasera" is also used as way of saying goodbye. When Italians part ways, they often say "Buonasera" to say goodbye, but also to wish others a good evening. Then there's the expression, "Buonanotte." One might be tempted to say this in the evening with friends or in a group of people you may be with. However, be careful! "Buonanotte" is only typically used when you know the person is about to go to sleep and you want to wish them a "good night."

QUICK TIP 2

It's very common for Italians to exchange kisses on both cheeks when saying "hello" and "goodbye." Kisses are typically exchanged among people who know but it is not uncommon for an Italian that you are meeting for the first time to kiss you as well. Wait and follow their lead in order to avoid any awkwardness.



Lesson 5: Parting greetings (Goodbye)

arrivederci

LESSON NOTES

The most common and simple phrase to use when saying goodbye is "arrivederci." And since Italians are very friendly people, they often exchange kisses on both cheeks while saying this. This is often common practice even with people they've just met. If you're unsure, or feel uncomfortable stick to the formal tense (See Quick Tip 1) and extend your hand for a handshake.

A parting expression that can be used for all occasions is "arrivederci" which literally means "goodbye".

The word "Ciao" as seen in the previous lesson, also means "goodbye".

When parting or saying goodbye at night there is the greeting "Buona sera". The first word "Buona" means "good". This is followed by "sera", which in Italian is "evening".

PHRASES

Italian

A presto

Ci vediamo presto

English

See you soon

See you soon

VOCABULARY

Italian

Arrivederci

Arrivederla

English

Goodbye (Informal)

Goodbye (Formal)

QUICK TIP

Sometimes it will be more appropriate to use the formal tense when saying goodbye. In Italian, "arrivederla" is used with elders, people of a certain profession (i.e. lawyers, doctors, professors, etc.) and of course, with strangers.

QUICK TIP 2

"When I was in Italy, I used these phrases at one of my favorite cafés in Rome. At Momart Café near Rome's La Sapienza University, I was a regular. I would go there almost every Wednesday evening with a friend to catch up over dinner. After dinner was through and we begin to part out ways, the restaurant staff always said to me, "A presto Signorina." They'd say "a presto" instead of "arrivederci" because they knew they'd be seeing me soon.



Lesson 7: Can You Speak English?

Parla inglese?

LESSON NOTES

Because Italians are such warm and friendly people, they'll always be willing to help out a tourist in difficulty. But that doesn't mean that all Italians speak English. If find yourself in difficulty and need to find someone who speaks English, you'll ask: Parla inglese? Hopefully, the person will speak enough English for you to understand in order to help you out.

In Italian Parla inglese? is "Can you speak English?". The first word Parla means "To speak". It is followed by Inglese, which in Italian is "English".

The phrase that we just learned is in the formal tense. You should always use the above phrase in situations with people you don't know or elders.

When speaking to younger people, it's acceptable to use the informal tense. You will say in Italian Parli inglese?. While the difference is minimal, the significance is very important.

Now let's try a different language. How about "Spanish". "Parla Spagnolo?". The word for "Spanish" is Spagnolo. Just the word for the language changes. The rest is the same.

Nowadays in Italy English is studied at schools, so the number of speakers is increasing; however, there are still many people who don't speak English.

PHRASES

Italian	English
Parla inglese?	Do you speak English? (formal)
Parli inglese?	Do you speak English? (informal)
Parlo molto poco l'italiano	I speak very little Italian.

QUICK TIP

One time in Stockholm, an Italian friend of mine got lost on the way to his hotel. He didn't speak any Swedish (this was before the SurvivalPhrases.com started its Swedish series) and his English wasn't very good. In the pouring rain, he stopped at a small newsstand in a side street and nervously asked for directions in English. He showed the old man his map and did his best to ask for directions in English. The man tried answering in English, but suddenly stopped and looked at my friend. "Parli Italiano?" he asked suddenly. My friend was shocked. As it turned

out, the man was a Swede but was married to an Italian woman. He spoke basic Italian, and had recognized my friend as being Italian from his Italian accent. After a short conversation, the man was able to give my friend clear directions to his hotel in Italian.



Lesson 8: I don't understand

Non capisco

LESSON NOTES

Although, by now you've learned some very important phrases to get you by during your trip, you will still need today's phrase. When you don't understand something you should say, Non capisco.

Non capisco means "I don't understand". The first word Non means "I don't". It is followed by Capisco, which in Italian is "understand". Non capisco literally means "I don't understand".

Another way to express that you don't understand is asking someone "What does that mean?" or Cosa significa?. The first word Cosa means "what". It is followed by significa, which in English is "it means". Cosa significa? literally means "What does that mean?"

If someone asks you one of these questions, and you're not sure of the answer you can use Non lo so which means "I don't know".

PHRASES

Italian	English
Non capisco	I don't understand
Cosa significa?	What does that mean?
Non lo so	I don't know
Cosa vuol dire?	What does that mean?
Capisce l'italiano?	Do you understand Italian? (formal)
Capisci l'italiano?	Do you understand Italian?(informal)
Non capisco l'italiano	I don't understand Italian.

QUICK TIP

If you're eating at a restaurant, you may have trouble deciphering the menu. There will likely be many terms that you don't recognize. While some restaurants (usually the touristy ones) have their menus translated in English or have menus with pictures on them, you still may have to ask the waiter what something means. In Italian, "What does this mean?" is Cosa significa? By using this phrase with the waiter, you are asking him to give you a further explanation of what food is being served (See Quick Tip 2).

QUICK TIP 2

As the waiter is explaining to you what each item is on the menu, you might have a question about the ingredients listed under each item. Another way of saying "What does this mean?" is *Cosa vuol dire?* Judging by your accent and depending on their English language skills, they may ask you, *Capisce l'italiano?* This term which is in the formal form, means "Do you understand Italian?" You could either respond by saying, *Si, capisco l'italiano* or *No, non capisco l'italiano*.



Lesson 10: Apologies(I'm Sorry)

Mi dispiace

LESSON NOTES

During your trip there may be some embarrassing moments due to cultural differences or different practices that you may need to excuse yourself for or even say sorry. While Italians are very forgiving and understanding people, it's also a nice to recognize when you've made a mistake and quickly ask for forgiveness. In such a situation it's nice to add in a "Mi dispiace." You could also say "Excuse me" which is Mi scusi in Italian (See Quick Tip 1).

"I'm sorry" in Italian is Mi dispiace.

This phrase is used when when you might have said something that has offended someone. It's also used when you think you may have done something wrong or embarrassing. Finally, it can also be used before you are asking someone to help you out with something or do you a favor.

"Excuse me" in Italian is Mi scusi.

This phrase is used when you are trying to work your way through a crowd, say at the subway station. It's also useful when you are trying to get someone's attention in a store.

What if someone says Mi dispiace to you? The proper response is Non c'è problema.

PHRASES

Italian	English
Mi dispiace	Excuse me (formal)
Scusami	Excuse me (informal)
Non c'è problema	There's no problem

QUICK TIP

You'll notice in bigger cities such as Rome and Milan, that the subway station is often crowded with people. Many people just push their way through the crowds without saying a word; though effective, it's not very polite. If someone is blocking your way and you need to get through, you should say, Mi scusi, and hopefully the person will let you by. The phrase Mi scusi is the formal way of saying "Excuse me" and is used when speaking to elders primarily. However, it is acceptable to say Scusami if you are passing by someone who is relatively young. The latter phrase is the informal tense for "Excuse me."

QUICK TIP 2

Italians are very easy going. So, if you've made a mistake that you feel you need to apologize for, they'll likely tell you it's okay or that it's not a problem. In Italian, "There's no problem" is Non c'è problema.



Lesson 52: Introducing Yourself

Mi chiamo Cinzia.

LESSON NOTES

Whatever the reason for travelling to Italy, you won't leave the country without having met people, so it's a must to learn how to introduce yourself and how to respond to people introducing themselves.

The best way to introduce ourselves is maybe by reviewing the parts of a conversation. As you know we have a polite version, the one where we use the formal level of speech, and the other one where we use the informal level.

Let's cover the formal version first.

In Italian "How do you do?" is come sta?. The first word come means "how", co-me come, this is followed by sta which in English literally means "you stay", sta, sta. So all together we have come sta? which literally means "How do you stay?" and it's translated as "How do you do?"

After come sta we will cover "My name is..." and we will use my name this time, so "my name is Cinzia" is mi chiamo Cinzia. The first word mi means "me" and it's followed by chiamo which in English is "call". So to recap here we have mi chiamo which literally means "I call myself" then you have the name, in this case Cinzia. All together we have mi chiamo Cinzia which literally means "I call myself Cinzia".

After that we will cover "Nice to meet you" which in Italian is piacere di conoscerla. The first word piacere literally means "pleasure". Then you have di "of", and finally you have conoscerla which in English is "know you". All together we have piacere di conoscerla which literally means "pleasure of knowing you".

Let's look over the informal level now. It's very straightforward because you need to change just few things.

Come sta? "How do you do?" becomes come stai? since you are using now the second person singular in place of the third person singular of the formal level.

The second part doesn't change at all, in fact we have also in the informal level mi chiamo Cinzia. "My name is Cinzia".

Instead, in place of piacere di conoscerla "nice to meet you", in the informal level we have piacere di conoscerti so the only thing that changes is once again the verb, the first part piacere di is the same, then you have conoscerti in place of conoscerla so all together we have piacere di conoscerti.

PHRASES

Italian

English

Come sta?

How do you do?

Mi chiamo Cinzia.

My name is Cinzia.

Piacere di conoscerla.

Pleased to meet you.

Come stai?

How do you do?

Piacere di conoscerti.

Pleased to meet you.

QUICK TIP

A variation of these first encounters phrase is when someone is introducing you another person.

Posso presentarle "qualcuno"?- "May I introduce you to "someone"?" (formal level)

Ti presento "qualcuno" – "I introduce you someone" (informal level)

